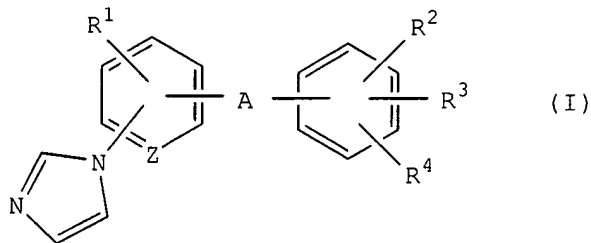


Abstract of the Disclosure

The MAG expression promoter of the present invention contains a compound of the formula (I)



wherein each symbol is as defined in the specification, an optically active form thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. As a compound of the formula (I), 4-[α -hydroxy-5-(1-imidazolyl)-2-methylbenzyl]-3,5-dimethylbenzoic acid is exemplified. The MAG expression promoter of the present invention is useful as an agent for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease of mammals inclusive of ~~human~~ humans, which mainly presents hypomyelination, further, dysmyelination or demyelination.